

Royle Blast

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## October 30, 2011

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The Message Board is a weekly email newsletter that is sent Sundays throughout the school year. It is created by the PTO to keep parents informed about school and community news that is relevant to you and your child at Royle. Submission guidelines are posted at the end of each Message Board for your reference. If your email address changes, please click on the "Update Profile/E-mail address" link at the end of this newsletter to update it. We are pleased to provide this information to all of you and look forward to an exciting year at Royle.

Useful Web Sites:

Darien Public School: www.darienps.org

Royle School: www.darienps.org/royle/

Royle PTO: www.darienps.org/roylepto

Dates to Remember:

OCTOBER

31 Kindergarten Halloween Parade 10:00 a.m.

NOVEMBER

1 Picture Retakes

1 Trash Free Tuesdays continue throughout the year

2 Executive Board Meeting 9:15 a.m.

2 Enrichment: Boston Museum of Science Grades 1 & 4

8 Election Day (Staff Development) No School

9 PTO Meeting 9:15 a.m.

**Guest Speakers: Dr. Steve Falcone, Superintendent
and Dr. Judith Pandolfo, Assistant Superintendent**

9 Royle Wrap Up pick-up in the Common Room

9 Kids Care Mtg: UNICEF Trick or Treat Drive 3:00 p.m.

10 Enrichment: Author Tony Abbott Grades 3 - 5

15-18 Book Fair (Family Night 11/16)

22 Kids Care Turkey/Chicken & Food Drive

23 Thanksgiving Recess Begins Early Dismissal

24-25 Thanksgiving Recess No School

28 Enrichment: Author Laurie Keller Grades K - 2

29-30 Parent Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal

29 DAEG Conf. Week After School Program 1:00 p.m.

30 Family Movie Matinee 1:00 p.m.

Messages from the PTO...

PTO THANK YOU

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Thank to Maribeth Sears and Nicole Stratenus for their hard work coordinating our

UNICEF efforts. Local merchants' store windows are decorated with posters made by Royle third, fourth and fifth graders. Please don't forget your UNICEF boxes when you head out to trick-or-treat tomorrow night! We look forward to hearing how much was raised for this great cause.

**SAVE THE DATE: NEXT PTO MEETING 11/9**

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Please join us for our next PTO meeting on Wednesday, November 9th in the cafeteria. Come hear about the Book Fair, Royle Gift Cards, Family Movie Matinee and more PTO activities. We are very excited to have **Dr. Steven Falcone**, Darien Schools Superintendent and **Dr. Judith Pandolfo**, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, on hand to discuss the 2011/2012 District Goals and Objectives as well as answer any questions you may have.

VETERAN'S DAY

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Royle will celebrate our Veterans the week of Nov 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. We have planned several activities for our students to Salute Our American Heroes. Thank you to those who submitted someone to our "Wall of Heroes". Our hall will be decorated with all of your honorees on Friday. Make sure to stop in and take a look! If you still have not made a submission, it is not too late. Please do so by Friday, 11/4.

The week of 11/7, our students will be writing letters, poems and/or coloring pictures to either soldiers currently stationed overseas or to retired Veterans to thank them for their service.

Please join us on Veterans Day, 11/11, for our school ceremony. The entire school community will congregate outside the front entrance of the school for a Veterans Day Ceremony commencing at 8:45. Keith will be raising the flag which was flown in our honor and sent to The Royle Community from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 12<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment based in Jalalbad, Afghanistan, in response to our children's letters last year. There will also be a school-wide Pledge of Allegiance, Patriotic songs, and a few speeches. Keith will also be recognizing the veterans within our community.

We ask that the students come to school dressed in red, white and blue. This will not be considered a "Spirit Day" but an observance of a special holiday.

Thank you again for all of your support. Please contact Chrissy Rooney 203-656-1781 or Amy Benedict 203-656-2486 with any questions.

**ROYLE WRAP UP**

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Wednesday, November 9th is the day to pick up your merchandise & prizes from the Genevieve Royle Wrap Up sale! All boxes will be in the Common Room. If you did Internet Sales only, please also come to pick up your tiered prizes. Pick up times will be from 8:15 a.m - 3:15 p.m. It is important that everyone who sold items make an effort to come this day to collect your boxes! Thanks again for

your support of Wrap Up.

TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF

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Once again Royle School will be participating in Trick or Treat for Unicef. Trick or Treat boxes will be handed out to each student on October 27th. If a child chooses to participate he or she can ask their friends and neighbor's to donate to Unicef as they trick or treat. The money they collect will be collected by teachers on November 1st. Unicef is the short name for the United Nations Children's Fund. It provides food, clothing, school supplies, and healthcare to children less fortunate than we all over the world. Thank you for your support of Unicef.

### **WEB PREPAYMENT SYSTEM FOR SCHOOL LUNCH**

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With LunchPrepay.com you never have to worry about lost lunch money again. LunchPrepay.com is a secure, easy and convenient way to apply funds directly to your student's account online. You can even check the account balance and keep an eye on what your student is buying! As an added convenience, parents can receive a Low Balance notification email alerting the parent that the student's account will need another payment applied soon.

www.LunchPrepay.com has been designed to make it easy for you to know exactly what information you need to provide and to guide you through the process.

Details:

Membership

- \$10 Membership fee (one-time only)
- Deposit money with ease using your debit or credit card
- Flexibility to deposit money into multiple student accounts with one payment
- View Account Balances
- View 90 day Meal History
- Low Balance Notification via email

To learn more visit www.LunchPrepay.com. To register, you simply need your student's district student Id #. If you do not have this number you may obtain it from your student's school. You can also access this system via the Darien Public School's website at www.darienps.org/current.

ROYLE SCHOOL STORE NEWS

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Stop in for a spell and check out the new Halloween goodies at the Royle School Store! Buy your Spooktacular Treat Bags for \$4 until Halloween or while they last. Treat the kids with the Halloween Scream Writer and Light-up Pens, Monster Relaxable Balls and Fuzzy Hairy Monster Book Marks! Located in the cafeteria, the store is open Wednesdays from 8:05 - 8:25 a.m. Contact Stephanie McGraw at [tsmcgraw@optonline.net](mailto:tsmcgraw@optonline.net) or 203-655-6585 with any questions.

### **ROYLE LEGEND YEARBOOK UPDATE**

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Artwork - keep those wonderful nautical flags coming!! The deadline is November 1st - extra copies are available on the Royle PTO website, in the office or by contacting Anne-Lise Brown at albdjb@aol.com Remember, a fifth grader's work

will be selected for the front cover. Yearbook orders - look for order forms in your child's backpack this week. The cost is the same as last year, \$22, and personalization is an additional \$3. Questions - contact Anne-Lise.

Keep taking photos of your child's classroom activities. Drop off in the office or send photos to albdjb@aol.com Thank you!!

ROYLE BOOK FAIR

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Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The Royle Book Fair is coming soon, November 15 - 18<sup>th</sup>, so mark your calendars now! The theme this year is "Enter the Kingdom of Reading, Where Books Rule..." The reading contest starts Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> and ends Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Letters were sent home to students and teachers on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Read three books and you will become a Knight. All Knights receive a small goodie and one Knight from each class will be selected to attend the Knight of the Round table breakfast with King Margolus on Tuesday morning, November 15<sup>th</sup> before school and you will gain early entrance to the book fair that day. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Dellaruso ([mdellaruso@aol.com](mailto:mdellaruso@aol.com)) or Stacey Smith ([Stacey.foster@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Stacey.foster@sbcglobal.net)).

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

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After last year's big success with our Box Tops incentive, we are bringing it back with the hopes to raise more money for Royle School. We will be counting and keeping a running tally of all the Box Tops brought in this year. The classroom that brings in the most coupons will win a brown bag lunch and popsicle party with Keith Margolus! The classrooms that come in second and third place will receive a popsicle party as a thank you for their efforts. All you have to do is put your Box Tops for Education coupons in an envelope marked with your teacher's name. There is a collection box in the main office. Keep a look out as there will be a chart near the main office tracking the numbers for each class! We will be keeping count until February 15th! Thank you for participating. Questions please contact Lisa Elwell at lisavelwell@gmail.com.

CRANIUM CHALLENGE

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IT'S BACK!!

**4TH AND 5TH GRADERS**

Mrs. Tiani and Ms. Mirabella present Cranium Challenge for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders! For those who enjoy a challenge, this class captivates students through an array of fun activities while supplementing their problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Students will work individually and cooperatively to explore and solve mathematical investigations using many creative strategies, such as puzzles and more. This program is geared towards children who excel in mathematics. Space is limited to 24 students. Deadline for entry is Friday November 11<sup>th</sup>. Please register soon; this class tends to fill up quickly!

Please go to [Cranium\\_Challenge@ROYLE\\_grades\\_4&5](mailto:Cranium_Challenge@ROYLE_grades_4&5) to enroll your child on a FIRST

come/FIRST served basis. Any questions, please contact Elizabeth Hearle at [elizabethhearle@yahoo.com](mailto:elizabethhearle@yahoo.com)

The class meets six times for 1-hour sessions on Wednesday mornings November 16, 2011 and runs through December 21, 2011. (11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/14). All classes are held from 7:25 - 8:25 p.m. in Mr. McCully's classroom. \$95 fee includes all material and manipulatives (scholarships are available for those qualifying for financial assistance and are completely confidential-please contact Allison Molkenthin at [allisonmolk@optonline.net](mailto:allisonmolk@optonline.net) with questions on scholarships).

### **2ND AND 3RD GRADERS**

Mr. McCully and Ms. Russel (yes!) present Cranium Challenge for 2nd and 3rd graders! For those who enjoy a challenge, this class captivates students through an array of fun activities while supplementing their problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Students will work individually and cooperatively to explore and solve mathematical investigations using many creative strategies, such as puzzles and more. This program is geared towards children who excel in mathematics. Space is limited to 24 students. Deadline for entry is Friday November 11th. Please register soon; this class tends to fill up quickly!

Please go to [Cranium\\_Challenge@ROYLE, grades 2&3](mailto:Cranium_Challenge@ROYLE_grades_2&3) to enroll your child on a FIRST come/FIRST served basis. Any questions, please contact Elizabeth Hearle at [elizabethhearle@yahoo.com](mailto:elizabethhearle@yahoo.com)

The class meets six times for 1-hour sessions on Wednesday mornings November 16, 2011 and runs through December 21, 2011. (11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/14). All classes are held from 7:25 - 8:25 p.m. in Mrs. Tiani's classroom. \$95 fee includes all material and manipulatives (scholarships are available for those qualifying for financial assistance and are completely confidential-please contact Allison Molkenthin at [allisonmolk@optonline.net](mailto:allisonmolk@optonline.net) with questions on scholarships).

### **ROYLE BAND REHEARSALS**

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Fifth Grade Advanced Band rehearsals on Tuesdays at 7:30am in the Instrumental Music Portable.

Instrument Lessons for a few 4th and all 5th Grade Band students on Tuesdays during the school day. Please remember to bring your Band instrument to school.

Instrument Lessons for 4th Grade Band students on Wednesdays during the school day.

Please remember to bring your Band instrument to school.

TIP OF THE WEEK

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Praise children for the things they are doing well; ask them what they are most proud of. For more information, go to [www.communityfunddarien.org](http://www.communityfunddarien.org)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS**

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For the latest detailed Board of Education Master Agenda, please refer to the following link: http://www.dariensps.org/current/board_of_ed/master_agenda.pdf

Upcoming elementary school highlights include:

November 9th, 7:30 p.m., Board of Education Conference Room

- Reorganization of Board of Education (Election of Officers)
- Report on Curriculum Work related to the Teaching and Learning of World Languages and Examination of Structures for Expansion into the Elementary and Middle Schools

November 22nd, 7:30 p.m., Board of Education Conference Room

- Presentation of Proposed 2012/2013 Capital Projects
- Presentation on District Enrollment and Space Utilization including Special Education

COMMUNITY NEWS

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**AN EVENING WITH PHILIP SCHULTZ - MY DYSLEXIA**

Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities presents a free program featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, Philip Schultz reading from his new memoir, My Dyslexia, on Tuesday, November 1, 7:30 to 9:00 pm at the Westport Public Library, 20 Jesup Road, Westport.

Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Philip Schultz will read from his new memoir, My Dyslexia. Mr. Schultz shares his improbable journey from the boy who could not learn to read to the writer and poet who received one of the world's most prestigious arts and letters awards. Schultz's inspiring story of finding and developing his unique strengths and talents will encourage all parents of children with learning disabilities. Copies of his new book will be available for sale. Students are welcome.

Please rsvp for this free program on Tuesday, November 1, at the Westport Public Library by emailing [Programs@SmartKidswithLD.org](mailto:Programs@SmartKidswithLD.org) or call 203-226-6703. Note

that we cannot reserve seats.

Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities, Inc. is a Westport-based nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering the parents of children with learning disabilities and ADHD via its educational programs, website, Facebook and new, free e-newsletter available at [www.SmartKidswithLD.org](http://www.SmartKidswithLD.org).

### **PARENT AWARENESS/DARIEN LIBRARY SHOWING: MISS REPRESENTATION**

Youth, Beauty and Sex: What Message is the Media Sending our Kids? The 2011 Sundance Festival film, *Miss Representation*, explores this multi-faceted topic, and the Darien YWCA Parent Awareness and Darien Library are proud to present the film's first public showing in the state on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and November 9<sup>th</sup>, both at 7:00 p.m. at the Darien Library. The film runs 1 hour 30 minutes and is rated PG-13 due to some harsh language and images. There will be a panel discussion following the Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> showing. The film explores how the media's misrepresentation of women has led to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence. A must-see for parents of boys and girls alike. For more information go to [www.ywcadariennorwalk.org](http://www.ywcadariennorwalk.org).

### **DARIEN YOUTH LACROSSE ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION**

The Darien Youth Lacrosse Association is springing forward with online registration for the 2012 season! Parents can register their children starting on **NOVEMBER 14** via the Register Online tab on the DYLA website, <http://www.dylax.com>. The program is open to boys and girls in Grades 1 - 8, and descriptions of each program can be found on the website.

Regular registration will be open from November 14 - December 23, 2011. From December 24, 2011 through January 15, 2012, a late fee of \$35 per player will apply. Mail-in and drop-off registrations and non-credit card payments will not be accepted except with prior permission from the Registrar. Need-based scholarships are available, for which more information can be found on the website or by contacting Andrew Barnard, [abarnard66@gmail.com](mailto:abarnard66@gmail.com). There will be a mandatory orientation on Sunday, February 12, 2012. For any questions, please contact the Registrar at [dylaxregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:dylaxregistrar@gmail.com).

### **THE ART OF LIVING WITH FOOD ALLERGIES - DARIEN LIBRARY 11/14 7-8:30PM**

During this free educational forum, presented by the Food Allergy Initiative (FAI) of CT,

Dr. Eyal Shemesh, will present on how we can use a positive approach to empower children and families who manage food allergies.

Eyal Shemesh, M.D. is Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry; Chief, Division of Behavioral and Developmental Health; Director, the EMPOWER (Enhancing, Managing, and PrOmoting WEll-being and Resiliency) Program, the Jaffe Food Allergy Institute Department of Pediatrics and Kravis Children's Hospital Mount Sinai Medical Center and School of Medicine New York. There will be a Q&A

after Dr. Shemesh's presentation.

Most patients who suffer from food allergies can lead a full, normal and healthy life and yet, the unpredictability of food allergy symptoms poses unique challenges that may increase a family's anxiety or distress level. In this discussion, Dr. Shemesh will share research findings as well as clinical anecdotes to illustrate principles that can help patients and families cope. Specifically, he will discuss the benefits as well as the risks of anxiety; the progression of coping needs and strategies in developing children; and the difference between simple avoidance (of foods that the child is allergic to) and "avoidant coping" (when the child avoids foods or activities that in fact are safe). Finally, Dr. Shemesh will discuss when to ask for further help and where to get it if needed.

RSVP: Seating is limited. Please RSVP to reserve a seat, [KBaginsky@faiusa.org](mailto:KBaginsky@faiusa.org). For more information, please contact Helen Jaffe, [hdjaffe@optonline.net](mailto:hdjaffe@optonline.net).

### **GIRL SCOUTS COAT DRIVE - LAST CALL**

This is the last call for the Darien Girl Scouts Coat Drive! We have done an amazing job so far but we know there are a few more of you out there who have coats to donate! If you haven't already done so, please clean out your closets and bring in your unwanted coats to help the Bridgeport Rescue Mission reach its goal of 5000 coats. The box will be in the front hall until **Monday, November 7th**.

Please contact Tracy Schiff at [tbschiff@yahoo.com](mailto:tbschiff@yahoo.com) with any questions. Thanks so much!

### **FREE COMPUTER CLASSES**

There is still space available in the free computer classes for school and community volunteers being offered by the Darien Foundation for Technology & Community. Classes include: Photo Organization, PowerPoint, Excel, Mail Merge and Publisher. For more information and to register, please visit our website [www.darienfoundation.org](http://www.darienfoundation.org) and click on the Computer Class button. All classes are held from 9:00am to noon at the Darien Library. If you have questions, call Pam Dysenchuk at 203-655-5099.

### **13TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE - PIEDMONT CLUB**

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Boutique at the Piedmont Club will take place just in time for unique holiday shopping on Thursday and Friday, November 10th and 11th, with a special Jo Malone shopping event on Thursday evening featuring a gift bag for the first 100 shoppers, wine tasting from WinePort of Darien, sweet treats from Sister Sweets, and other delicious nibbles. This year's gift bags will include a special fragrance gift from Jo Malone, fun baubles, sweet treats, great reads, and other surprises. Vendors at this high-end gift boutique include MRS Monogram, Jo Malone, Jingle Nog, Ilyse's Pieces, Gina Made it, Elegant Pots and Petals, Stanton Sweets, Anjolie Ayurveda, Pocket the Date, Hopscotch, Barbara Gerwit, In2Green, Monograms Off Madison, Lynne T. Ward Antique Prints, Asiatique, Dizzie Lizzie, Carrie Dunham, Oliphant Design, BabyBox, Everything Is Rosey and many more.

Suggested entry donation is \$5 for daytime shopping hours and \$10 for the

Thursday evening event. A percentage of the event's proceeds will benefit the YWCA of Darien/Norwalk to fund its ongoing community programs including YWCA Parent Awareness, a lecture series to educate local parents, and scholarships for the YWCA Job Search Support program that helps women learn job skills to gain employment. Shopping hours are Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 4:30pm and 6:30-9:00pm and Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 4pm. The Piedmont Club is located at 152 Hecker Drive, Darien. For more information, visit [www.ywcadariennorwalk.org](http://www.ywcadariennorwalk.org) or call 203-655-2535.

**FUTURE STARS BASKETBALL**

Small Stars Shooting, skill building and game play! Thursday 10/27 4-5:30pm, 7 week program, boys and girls grades k-5, featuring former NBA Seattle Supersonics player - Frank Oleynick. Tuition \$199, Call to register 203-367-1673 or 203-656-7325 [www.wearefuturestars.com](http://www.wearefuturestars.com), Sponsored by Darien Parks and Recreation [www.darienct.gov/parkrec](http://www.darienct.gov/parkrec)

**PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED**

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**OPEN HOUSE FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR FOR THE EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

November 2, 2011, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., At Tokeneke School  
Applications for 3 & 4-year-old youngsters are being accepted for Darien's Early Learning Program 2012-2013 school year. The ELP is a Darien district-wide program, for Darien residents, housed at Hindley and Tokeneke Elementary Schools, and staffed by Connecticut State Certified Educators. The goals of the ELP are to enhance each child's cognitive understanding, emotional development, social skills, language usage, and physical motor development through structured and facilitated language and play-based experiences. These goals are met through small class sizes containing a high staff to student ratio which enables us to individualize learning opportunities. Openings currently exist the 16 hour per week programs for both 3 & 4-year-olds.  
For an application go to: <http://elpdps.wordpress.com/apply-to-elp/>  
ELP Assistant Principal, Laura Straiton, [lstraiton@darienps.org](mailto:lstraiton@darienps.org)

**DEPOT YOUTH CENTER**

Mom & Pop Shop: Thursday, November 3, 7-8:30 pm. Join Detectives Mark Cappelli and Sam Boccuzzi on the first Thursday of every month for an informal roundtable discussion on topics that you choose to discuss.

**HOLIDAY FAIR TRADE MARKET**

The Darien Nature Center & Handcrafting Justice invite you to a HOLIDAY FAIR TRADE MARKET featuring unique handmade goods from Women's Cooperatives in developing countries around the world. All proceeds go to Handcrafting Justice, an economic justice project of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, an NGO in special status with the United Nations. **GOODS ON SALE, November 1 - 16**, Weekdays 9:00 - 3:00 at the Darien Nature Center.



- name/phone/email
- Must be related to school activity or approved non-profit community event
- Must be e-mailed no later than Thursday at 5pm
- Editor has final discretion as to whether information is appropriate for the Message Board

For questions or comments on the Royle Blast, please send an email to [roylemsgboard@gmail.com](mailto:roylemsgboard@gmail.com)

*Annie Necakov, Mary Canaday and Jennifer Shea  
Royle Blast Editors*

**USEFUL LINKS**

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- [Royle Lunch Menu](#)
- [Royle PTO Website](#)
- [Royle School Website](#)
- [Royle Rags](#)

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email: [roylemsgboard@gmail.com](mailto:roylemsgboard@gmail.com)

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